Exploration of gas oil in North Bihar

1835. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) the result of exercises undertaken to explore Gas and Oil in North Bihar; and

(b) whether there is any further programme of drilling in the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) No commercial discovery of hydrocarbons has so far been made in Bihar.

(b) In Madhubani area, one well has been released for drilling up to 6000 metres.

Development of gas fields

1836. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to develop gas fields and plan extensive exploration of gas which could be used as a fuel for power development; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, the details would be available after the Seventh Five Year Plan is finalised.

Percentage of oil recovery

1837. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rate of oil recovery in India is 25 per cent as compared to 40 per cent in other countries; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) what steps Government are taking to use the latest recovery methods as are in use in other countries to obtain richer results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) and (b) The primary recovery factor varies depending upon ..the co characteristics. This can be increased through enhanced oil recovery methods. The average global primary recovery factor is around 25 per cent only. Through enhanced oil recovery mathods, oil recovery factor has in some cases been increased well beyond 40 per cent. Efforts are being made to increase the recovery factor in India by using enhanced oil recovery methods.

Waiting list for telephone connections

1838. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections at present in each State and Union Territory;

(b) what is the annual programme for giving connections in each State and Union Territory; and

(c) by when a telephone connection is to be given on demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) The informattion is given in Annexure.

(c) The objective set for the 7th Five Year Plan is to provide telephone connections substantially on demand by the end of it, provided adequate resources are made available to the Department.